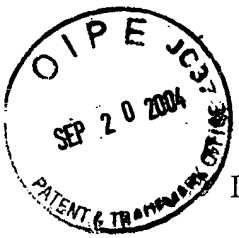


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PATENT APPLICATION



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

KAZUYOSHI SUMIUCHI

Application No.: 09/342,926

Filed: June 30, 1999

For: IMAGE PROCESSING
APPARATUS AND METHOD

Examiner: D. Tran

Group Art Unit: 2624 Technology Center 2000

September 16, 2004

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Mail Stop Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION

Sir:

This is in response to the Office Action dated June 16, 2004.

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first-class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P. O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on

September 16, 2004

(Date of Deposit)

Frank L. Cire, Reg. No. 42,419

(Name of Attorney for Applicant)

Signature

September 16, 2004

Date of Signature